

KC PET PROJECT

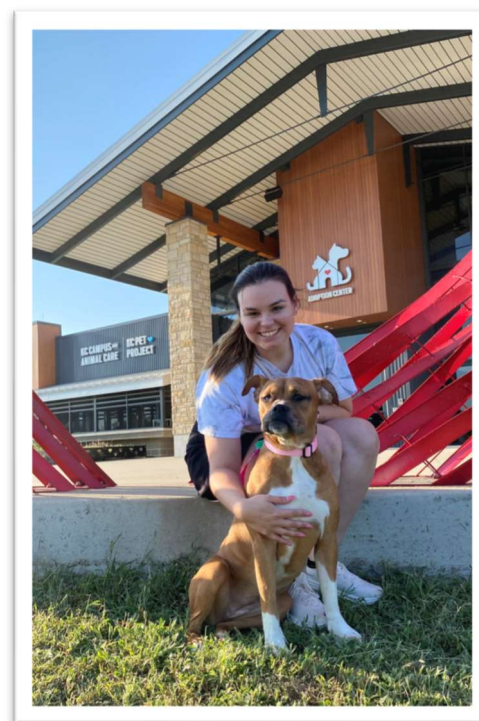
Impact Report for August 2023 Activities

Sheltering Statistics:

Dog & Cat Totals Jan - August	2023	2022	Difference
Adoptions	6,505	6,738	233 fewer
Total Intake	10,306	10,179	127 more
Returned to Owners	1,369	1,257	112 more
Live Release Rate	92.9%	96.5%	3.6% lower
Owner Surrendered Pets	2,128	2,668	540 fewer
Stray animals brought in by public	4,289	3,218	1,071 more
Cats/kittens transferred IN	840	1,334	494 fewer
Spay/Neuter Surgeries Performed	5,653	5,458	195 more
Average Length of Stay for Dogs	20.0 days	17.6 days	2.4 days longer
Average Length of Stay for Cats	18.3 days	19.3 days	1 day fewer

August 2023 - Animals In & Animals Out

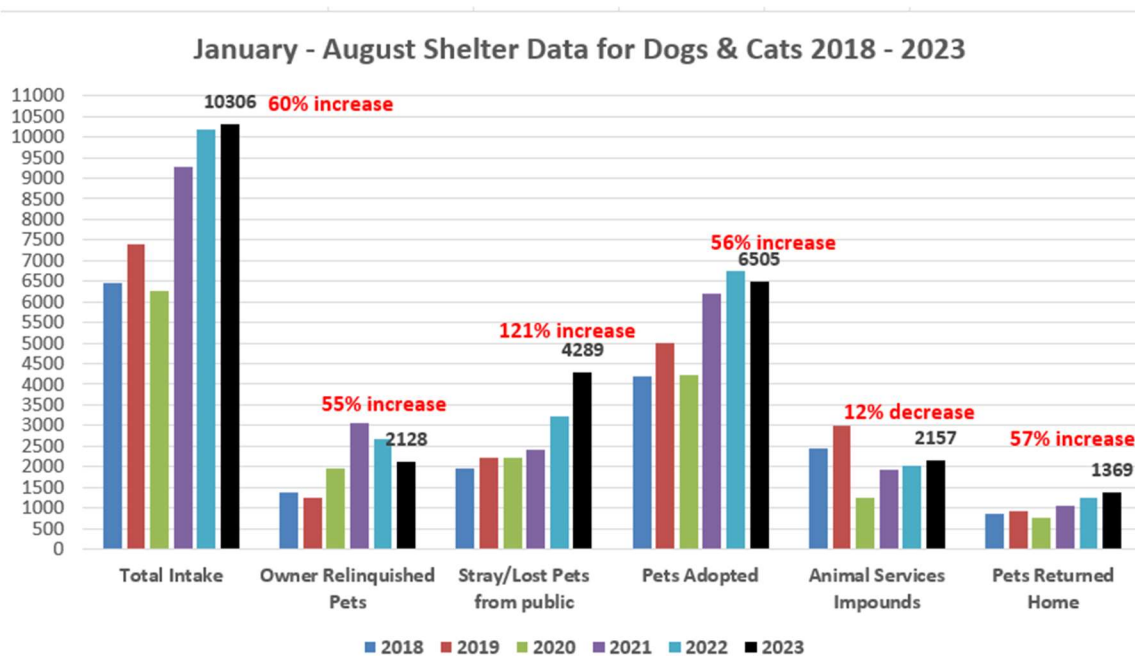
- ❖ More dogs continue to arrive each month than ever before in our city’s history (715 new dogs in August), with a 25% increase in stray dogs arriving compared to last year at this time. We received or provided care for **1,424** new dogs and cats that arrived in August (715 dogs, 655 cats), along with 1 guinea pig, 1 budgie, 9 roosters, 1 hamster, 3 lizards, 5 rabbits, 1 pet rat, and 1 turtle.
- ❖ **965** pets were adopted in August (458 dogs, 487 cats, and 20 other pets). The number of dogs being adopted is **27%** higher than in August 2022 – including Tahiti (right) who was approved to go live in the dorms with his new mom at the University of Nebraska!
- ❖ Despite the enormous increase in dogs arriving and the length of stay increasing for dogs, we still achieved a **91.8%** Save Rate in August (92.1% dogs, 91.5% cats).
- ❖ Our veterinary team performed **901** spay/neuter and specialty surgeries in August. Doctors performed **1,292** examinations on pets in/arriving at our shelter and treated 17 puppies and young dogs in our shelter’s parvovirus ward.
- ❖ We provided spay/neuter surgeries and veterinary services for 50 community cats last month (for a total of **512** low-cost surgeries performed for community cats this year).
- ❖ 312 dogs/puppies and 302 cats/kittens were sent to foster homes in August.



- ❖ We provided free spay/neuter surgeries and veterinary services for 29 owned dogs last month that were reclaimed and reunited with their families (for a total of **229** reclaimed dogs that have been spayed/neutered at no charge by KCPP this year).

Data Trend for January – August 2023:

- ❖ Total intake of dogs and cats is still running at the highest level recorded in our 11-year history – increasing steadily every year for a **60% increase** in the number of animals arriving over the past 5 years.
- ❖ The number of pets being adopted has slowed but is still at the highest level in our 11-year history – **up 56% over the past 5 years.**



- ❖ Stray/lost pets brought in by the public are arriving at the highest level ever recorded in Kansas City – **up 121% from 2018 totals**. The number of stray animals arriving is currently **33%** higher than last year’s record setting numbers.
- ❖ Lost/impounded pets being reunited with their families through our Return-to-Home Team are **57%** higher than 2018 totals.
- ❖ Our Live Release Rate (save rate) has unfortunately decreased due to the unprecedented numbers of dogs arriving, with the level of dog euthanasia currently 134% higher than in 2022. Our Live Release Rate for dogs in 2023 is **92.4%**.

Animal Services Division Update

- ❖ Officers worked **2,144** case activities in August, travelling a total of **15,300** miles throughout the city, impounding **313** animals, and returning an additional 15 pets back to their homes without having to impound them.

Calls from Residents Resulting in Cases	Online Reports Received by ASD	Case Follow Up Activities Conducted	Total Case Activities for the Month
1,511	167	466	2,144

- ❖ In August, officers issued fifty-nine (59) criminal citations, with **513 criminal citations** for ordinance violations have been issued in the first 8 months through Municipal Court.
- ❖ Dispatchers answered 3,640 phone calls and had a call abandonment rate of only 6.9%. For the month of August, the average wait time for residents trying to connect with an Animal Services Dispatcher was **26.5 seconds** – whether callers went through the 311 prompt or residents called us direct.
- ❖ We saw a **275%** increase in the number of animals impounded in August as a result of calls for evictions.
- ❖ Our Animal Services Division announced another animal abuse/cruelty case was referred to the Jackson County Prosecutor’s Office for State-level cruelty charges to be filed.

- ❖ On August 23rd, Field Services Manager Anna Redford was featured in a local Fox 4 news story, “KC Animal Services Searching for Pets in Distress During Heat Wave.” News Reporter Sean McDowell did a ride along to see firsthand how our division is working to interrupt the cycle of heat-related neglect cases in Kansas City, MO.
- ❖ On August 31st, Chief Johnson met virtually with representatives from the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and Human Animal Support Services (HASS) to discuss collaboration on future training opportunities for local law-enforcement and animal welfare professionals.

Stories from the Field – Officers Save Dogs Suffering from Heat Stroke

On August 19th, KC Pet Project Animal Services Officers responded to an emergency report of two dogs experiencing heat distress that had been left tied up in the sun on the front porch of a home. Animal Services Manager LaDue and Officer Hodges immediately responded and discovered two Pitbull-type dogs showing extreme signs of heat-related distress. Both officers knew that without immediate intervention the dogs would die due to the extreme heat. After several unsuccessful attempts to contact the owner, one of the dogs fell off the side of the porch and began to hang by his collar. The dog was lethargic and going into a state of heat stroke.

Animal Services Officers immediately seized both dogs under an exception for a warrantless seizure because the circumstances were considered exigent/emergent. Both dogs were rushed to KCPP’s vet clinic for immediate emergency treatment for heat stroke. Doctors confirmed the seizure of these dogs saved their lives on this day.

Our officers issued an “Unfit Owner” declaration to permanently remove the dogs from the home and the owner has been issued multiple citations through Municipal Court for inadequate care, failure to license, and Pitbull-related ordinances. Criminal charges of this nature require a mandatory court appearance. We are grateful to our community each time they report these situations to us so that we can respond and ensure the care and well-being of the pets in our community.



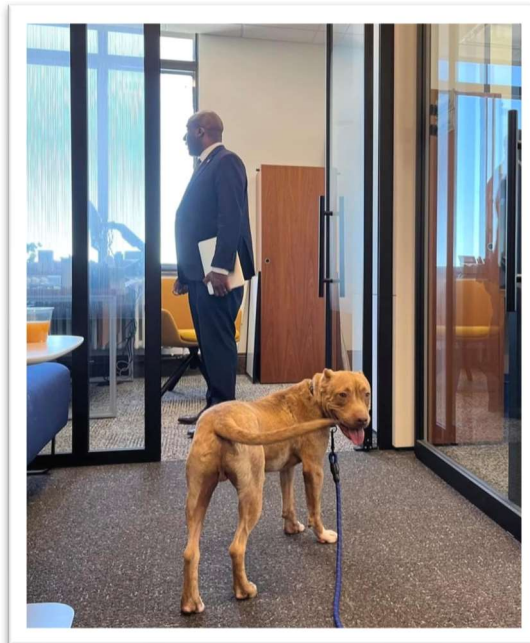
Marketing/PR/Communications/Community Events

Chief Communications Officer, Tori Fugate, reported the following activities:

- ❖ Tori was a featured speakers for two sessions at the *Best Friends Animal Society National Conference* in Houston, Texas on “Capacity Crisis Marketing” with Misty Valenta, Director of the Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter, and on “Strategically Marketing Big Dogs” with Caitlin Quinn of HeARTs Speak. CEO Teresa Johnson, Director of Canine Operations Tabitha Urban, and Chief of Animal Services Ryan Johnson also attended the conference.
- ❖ Tori gave a presentation at the Volunteer Management Institute with Nonprofit Connect in August on “Communications with your Volunteer Program.”
- ❖ We launched our *Pitch in for Pets* promotion with Royal’s pitcher, Josh Staumont, and his wife Angelina. We’re featuring a pet each week whose adoption fee is underwritten by them, and each pet goes home with a Ziwi swag bag and DubDog collar.



- ❖ We held a “Kitten Party” at Casual Animal Brewing Company. We had a huge crowd and raised more than \$1,500 in monetary and in-kind donations in support of our foster kitten program.
- ❖ Our *Bark to School Adoption Event* was held on August 18th – 20th and 112 pets were adopted.
- ❖ Playdoh got to go on the ultimate Dog Day Out (DDO) with Mayor Quinton Lucas (right). Playdoh was adopted as soon as he returned to our Campus.
- ❖ We held an adoption event for MO Tax Free Weekend at our Zona Rosa Adoption Center and 23 pets were adopted from our Northland location.
- ❖ We began offering fee-waived adoptions on our At-Risk dogs until further notice and focusing more marketing efforts for those dogs on our website and social media each week.
- ❖ We had 458 news stories and broadcast mentions during the month of August with a total reach last month of **730,262,805 million people**.
- ❖ We had a feature cover story in the Kansas City Star written by reporter Eric Adler that went behind the scenes of the space crisis we have experienced during the summer months and transparently discussed the reality of euthanasia in the story. The article was shared widely on a nationwide level and many other shelters shared it within their markets. This was followed by two additional feature stories in the Star about our longest stay dogs and the lack of spay/neuter resources across the Kansas City community.
- ❖ We were featured as part of a national news story by Petco Love in honor of National Matchmaker Day which featured team member Nathaniel Remines on our canine care team.



Website Statistics	Social Statistics
Users – 77,998	104,000+ followers on Instagram
New Users- 70,935	166,000+ likes on Facebook
Sessions – 138,893	1.3 million TikTok followers
Page Views – 677,118 (web traffic was up 2% in August)	

Community Education/Partnerships/School Visits

We had eight (8) events at our Campus facility in August, including four (4) birthday parties, a career fair and a national veterinary conference hands-on Ultrasound Lab, and we welcomed 123 members of the public for various activities in our Education Pavilion.



Volunteer Program Updates

Mandy Irey, Volunteer Engagement Manager, reported the following updates for KC Pet Project’s volunteer department:

- ✓ In August, 580 volunteers gave 4,735.43 hours of services, the equivalent of 27.32 full-time employees.
- ✓ Total value of volunteer hours in August: \$135,149.17; a 24.4% decrease from last month’s total of \$178,762.28.
- ✓ Seven (7) new volunteer orientations were conducted for 85 attendees (a 31.45% decrease from last month)
- ✓ Sixty-two (62) new volunteers gave 403.36 hours in August and 172 volunteers participated in 304:34 hours of training sessions, including in-person mentoring sessions for 123 volunteers.

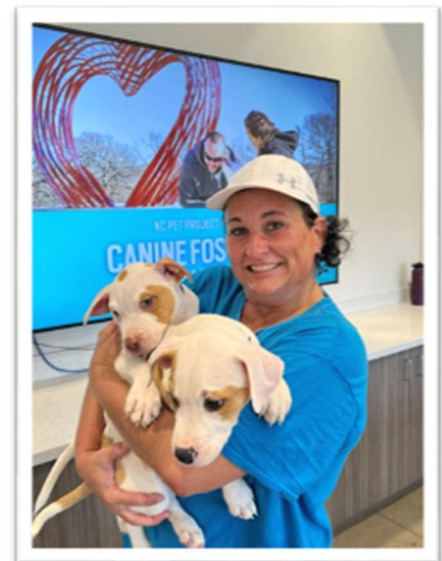
Businesses and groups that volunteered in August brought 145 people to the campus and gave 264 hours of service: *Spotlight LLC, Stryten Energy, New Frontiers at University Health, Van Meter Inc, MBB Agency, Easterseals Midwest, Research Medical Center Laboratory, Oracle Health, William Jewell College Volleyball Team, DEMDACO.*

Volunteer Recruitment and Retention

- ✓ Total active volunteers: **1,980** individuals, including 62 *newly active* volunteers.
- ✓ We received 319 new volunteer signups in August.

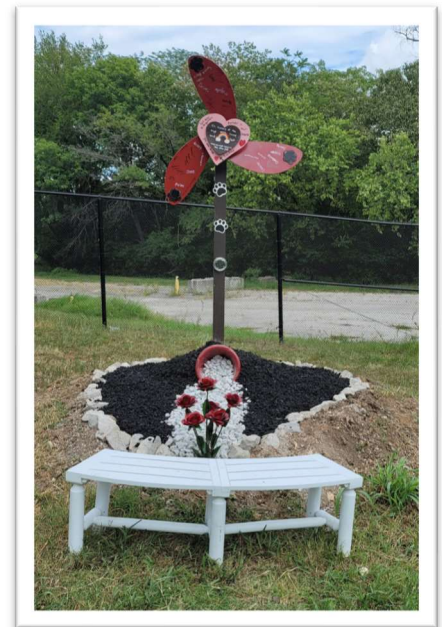
“Teddy was amazing. So patient, kind and knowledgeable.”

“I’m happy to be able to now walk both green and orange level dogs. Linda does a great job mentoring.”



News From the Volunteer Department

- ❖ Volunteers helped at the *Be a Foster* Event from August 25th – 27th interviewing new fosters and sharing information about the program to help match dogs with families looking to become fosters.
- ❖ We have the highest recorded volunteer participation percentage in the history of KC Pet Project -- with a 65% rate of participation by our volunteer base.
- ❖ One of our amazing volunteers, Billie Jo Wirick, created a memorial for all the pets we have loved and lost here at KC Pet Project. She raised the funds for an outdoor bench, lights, and flowers that create a safe space for staff and volunteers to grieve (right).
- ❖ Another amazing volunteer, Teddy Wright, is creating a sensory/memory garden for the dogs. The sensory garden will be planted in colorfully painted tires to allow the dogs to utilize all their senses. It helps the dogs with mental stimulation while also reducing stress from the shelter.



Surgeries & Medical Procedures Performed in August 2023

Surgeries		Exams		Parvo Ward	
Community Cats Neutered	29	Wellness exams	457	Parvo pups treated	17
Community Cats spayed	21	Emergency exams	117	Parvo pups graduated	15
Reclaimed dogs neutered	17	Foster pet exams	31	Save rate for parvo	88%
Reclaimed dogs spayed	12	Rechecks performed	299	Vet Clinic Communications	
Shelter Animals Neutered	381			Foster Concerns Addressed	264
Shelter Animals Spayed	409			Phone Calls Received	228
Speciality Surgeries	32			Medications filled	287
Total Surgeries	901	Total Exams	1292		

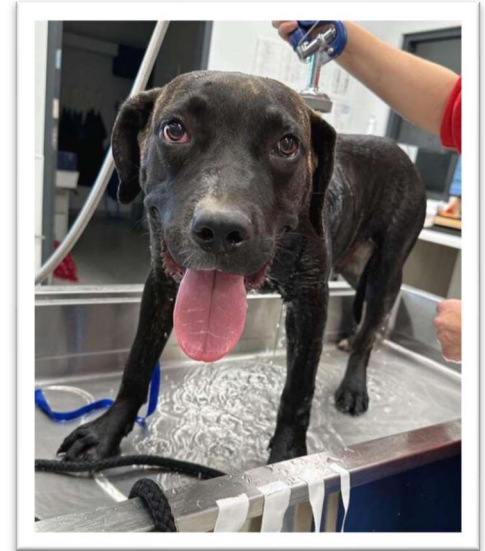
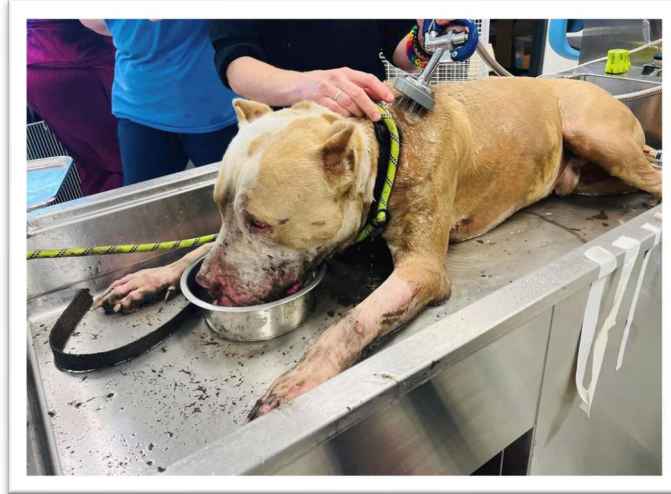
News from our Veterinary Clinic

Our shelter veterinarians have already performed **5,653** spay/neuter surgeries so far this year – nearly 200 more surgeries than last year at this time.

Stories from the Veterinary Clinic - Rico and Tyson

An overheated animal can turn into a dying animal without immediate intervention. This is exactly what our Animal Services Officers found when they responded to a call about two dogs, Tyson and Rico, that were left in the heat in their yard. Our officers realized when they arrived Tyson and Rico were already in distress - panting uncontrollably, bloodshot eyes, stumbling and unable to walk, and temperatures too high to read on a thermometer. We got the call there were two “overheated” dogs being transported to our clinic, and when they arrived, we knew we had to act faster if we were going to save them.

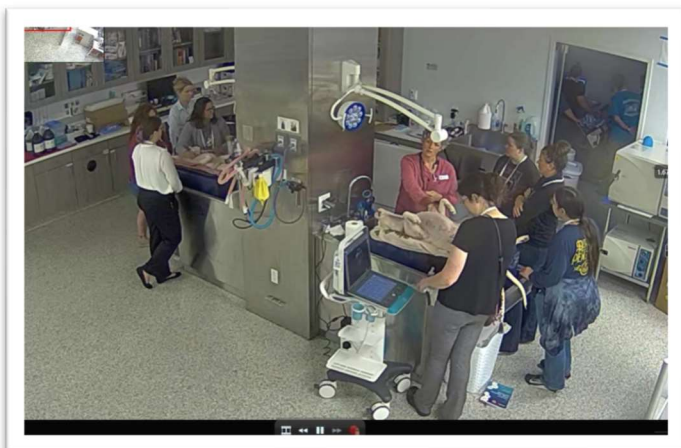
Tyson (the black dog) arrived with a body temperature of 104 degrees, which is very warm, but not deadly. **Rico** (the tan dog) was already at 109 degrees! Brain damage and organ failure can happen at 106 degrees, so our team had to act quickly to keep his body from shutting down. Both dogs



were dirty, exhausted, and terrified. We placed catheters in both dogs, covered each dog in cool, damp towels, and placed them on our wet tables to pour cool water over them. Eventually, their body temperatures went down, and both were excited to drink water when it was offered. These boys spent a few days in our clinic hospital to ensure they fully recovered. We are thankful for the quick actions of our Animal Services Officers and our lifesaving medical team for ensuring the deadly heat didn’t claim these lives on our watch.

Fetch DVM 360 Veterinary Conference Chooses KC Pet Project’s Clinic to Teach Veterinarians

On Saturday, August 26th, our vet clinic was host to thirty-three (33) of the thousands of veterinarians who were in Kansas City for this annual veterinary conference. Doctors from across the country attended hands-on training for **small animal abdominal ultrasound**. The training was led by Dr. Betsy Charles of the Veterinary Leadership Institute using ultrasound equipment brought in especially for the event by Universal Imaging. Our own clinic staff facilitated the event, rearranging our surgery schedule and choosing some sweet shelter dogs and cats that we knew would be perfect patients. Dr. Charles and the other visiting veterinarians were impressed by our shelter and how smoothly we ran the event, and all our shelter pets that served as practice patients earned Certificates of Appreciation.



Pet Support Center – Pet Support Desk, Pet Helpline, and Return-to-Home

Customer Engagement Performance

Google Ratings:

- ✓ KC Pet Project at KCCAC: **4.3/5.00** (1,498 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Zona Rosa Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (662 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Petco Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (204 Google reviews)

Colin Sutter, Customer Engagement Coordinator, reported **594** emails were received in August inquiring about fostering a pet or pets in foster homes. An additional **830** emails were received through our Contact email address, mostly regarding pets available for adoption or the adoption process. We received 51 adoption updates through our Constant Contact email campaigns – including this one:

“Sarai - now named Sammi - has adjusted well to her new life. She is continuing to come out of her shell. She's quickly learned how to sit on command and is eager to learn basic commands. She loves hanging out with her mom during work-from-home days, going on walks, prowling her fenced-in yard, playing with her toys, and eating all the treats she can. Sammi wanted to thank her friends at KC Pet Project for their support and care during her stay and for finding her forever home.”

Pet Support Center – Customer Satisfaction Survey

- ✓ **2023 Rating: 4.64/5.0 stars**
- ✓ Historical rating: 4.60/5.0 stars: 27 surveys submitted in August, 1,052 submitted since launch in September 2020

“I do TNR for community cats and had to bring an injured cat in for care. The whole staff at KCPP is wonderful.”

- ❖ In August, the Pet Support Center staff assisted approximately 1,285 KCMO residents with in-person services - bringing the total for 2023 to more than **7,966** residents/families who came in for pet relinquishment services, stray animal impounds, microchipping, lost and found/return to home, pet licensing, bringing in sick or injured pets, pets being reclaimed, and for pet resources such as basic pet care supplies as well as supportive programs through Keep 'Em Together, KC.
- ❖ The Pet Support Center kept families together for **99** animals whose owners originally contacted KCPP to surrender their pet(s); 59 animals were diverted through return-to-field, trap-neuter-return, and safety net programs, and 6 additional animals were returned to grateful owners through subsidized programs after being surrendered to the shelter. **A total of 164 animals stayed with their families last month instead of coming into the shelter due to supportive services provided.**
- ❖ We took in **628** stray/lost animals from members of the public (*a 26% increase from August 2022*).

Rehoming Support Services

In August, our team received 136 requests for our private rehoming services. Eligible pet owners posted **78** owned pets for adoption through our ReHome website. *Our team has received 2,997 requests for ReHome services since October 2021.*

The top 4 reasons pets have been surrendered so far in 2023 were:

1. Lack of financial resources or inability to access resources for their pets, including costs for veterinary care and unplanned litters (751 pets),
2. Personal reasons including changes in lifestyle, or the pet was incompatible with the living arrangements of other people or other animals (411 pets),



3. Health of the owner or health of pet (409 pets),
4. Housing Issues including cost, loss of home, moving/relocating, eviction, and housing restrictions (340 pets).

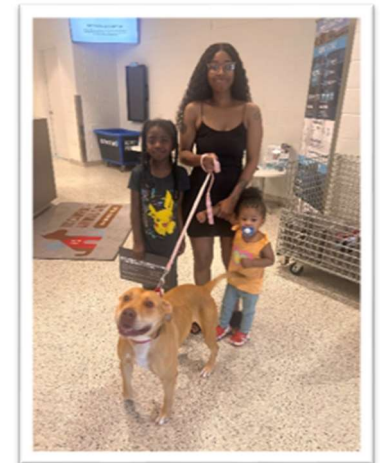
Pet Support Call Center Performance

August 2023	Answered	Unanswered	Total Calls	Abandoned Rate %
IN > Helpline - Main Queue	3,799	934	4,733	20%
IN > Helpline - Spanish	65	57	122	47%
IN > Helpline - Lost and Found	950	242	1,192	20%
Helpline INBOUND Performance	4,814	1,233	6,047	20%
OUT < Helpline - Main	967	136	1,103	N/A
OUT < Helpline – Lost and Found	359	59	418	N/A
Helpline OUTBOUND Performance	1,326	195	1,521	N/A
Total Performance for the Month	6,140	1,428	7,568	19%

Our Pet Support Center team answered **4,814** live phone calls, completed 1,521 outbound calls, resolved 519 voicemails, and completed a total of 8,139 interactions with pet families in August, a 6% increase from last month.

Return-to-Home Team

- ❖ The Return-to-Home team received 118 Lost Pet Reports and 64 Found Pet Reports filed online or over the phone by residents last month. They conducted 100 in-depth microchip investigations for stray animals in our care.
- ❖ 132 (19.4%) of the 682 lost animals (not including 171 kittens) brought to the shelter in August were returned to their owners. **23.8% of lost dogs were reunited with their families, while only 7.7% of lost cats were reclaimed by their owners.**
- ❖ Animal Services Officers have reunited **186** lost pets in the field so far in 2023, keeping those pets with their families and out of the shelter. *The number of lost/impounded pets being returned to their families through our Return-to-Home Team and our Animal Services Officers is currently up **80% over 2018 totals!***



Keep 'Em Together, KC Program Updates

Atlas Gatten, Director of Community Programs, reported **407** families benefitted from our five (5) KETKC Subsidiary Programs in August (a 33% increase from last month):

1. Home Away from Home (HAFH) – Temporary Care Boarding Program

- ✓ 30 families with 41 pets applied for temporary care assistance in August.
- ✓ 4 new safety net foster applications were received.
- ✓ 1 family (2 pets) were reunited in August.
- ✓ Two new families were enrolled in the program in August; currently 2 families with 3 pets are enrolled in HAFH.

623 applications have been received since the program launched in February 2021. Since inception, Home Away from Home has provided 4,990 days of enrollment and 7,770 days of temporary care for a total of 89 families with 137 pets. Home Away from Home currently has a **93% reunification rate**.

2. Pet Care Assistance Program

Pet owner financial assistance totaling **\$3,882.25** for 27 families (31 pets) was provided by KCPP in August.

- ✓ 28 Pet Care Assistance Applications were received.
- ✓ Healthy Pets KC medical assistance granted: \$335.00
- ✓ Home Away From Home Reunification Fees: \$60.00
- ✓ Shelter Reunification assistance granted: \$3,487.25

3. Pet Resource Assistance Program

Derek Melies, Keep 'Em Together Coordinator, reported pet foods were shared with three (3) community pantry partners in the metro, including *the Don Bosco Center, Chestnut Avenue Resource Center, Pets For Life, and two local community cat caregivers.*

294 families with 680 pets benefited directly from these resources provided in August:

- ✓ 3,285 lbs. of cat food and 11 lbs. of cat treats
- ✓ 2,990 lbs. of dog food and 67 lbs. dog treats
- ✓ 50 lbs. of kitty litter
- ✓ 47 collars and 42 leashes
- ✓ 49 individual doses of flea/heartworm medicine
- ✓ 5 kennels/crates
- ✓ 139 miscellaneous pet care items

KC Pet Project received a generous 500 lb. donation of Natural Nubz Edible Dog Chews from Costco in Lenexa, KS. The treats are being used for our resource and enrichment programs.

4. 3-Day Reclaim Fee Forgiveness Program

- ✓ **74%** of the animals reclaimed from the shelter in August were reclaimed by owners who took advantage of the Reclaim Fee Forgiveness program.
- ✓ **Since July 2021, we have subsidized \$224,774.00 in reclaim fees for 2,148 families with 2,543 pets.**

\$9,260.00 was subsidized by KCPP in Reclaim Fee Forgiveness for 82 families with 98 pets in August.

5. Pets For Life Program

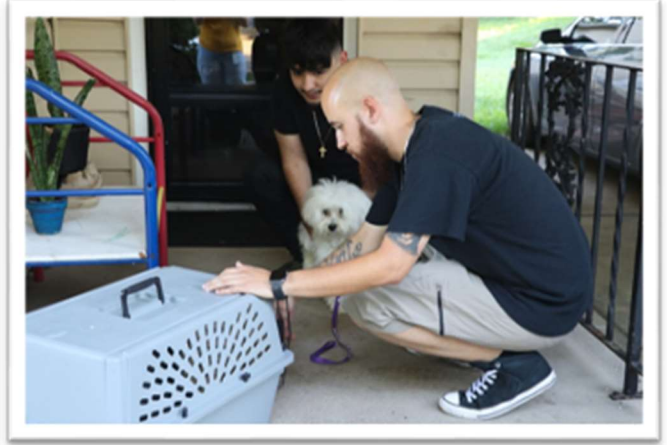
Jaime Gomez, Pets for Life Coordinator, reported our Pets for Life (PFL) program had the following impact for the month of August:

- ✓ New clients met through active PFL outreach: 2
- ✓ Number of new pets met: 5
- ✓ Total touchpoints/conversations with PFL clients: 32
- ✓ Total number of spay/neuter appointments completed: 7
- ✓ Supplies given (leashes, food, shelters): 39 items
- ✓ Medications/services given (dewormer, nail trims, microchips, vaccines, etc.): 38
- ✓ Completion rate of spay/neuter: 78%
- ✓ Conversion rate of altered pets whose pet families request spay/neuter services: 22%

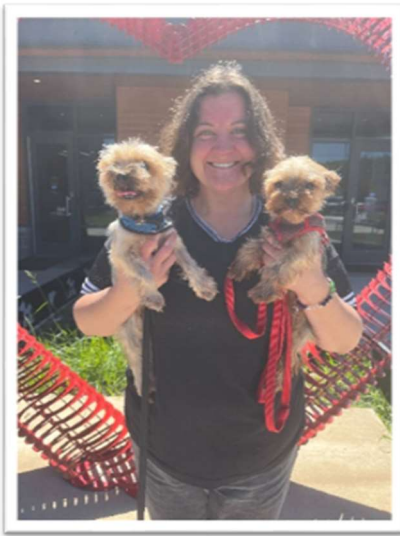


We began our partnership with Northland Animal Welfare Society to provide spay/neuter surgery for clients in our Pets For Life program. In August, we scheduled and completed seven (7) veterinary appointments (6 dogs, 1 cat) for spay/neuter surgeries, basic vaccinations, microchipping, and one pet grooming was included during a surgery appointment.

There are currently **35 clients (with 53 pets)** receiving ongoing support from Pets for Life in the Kansas City, Missouri community of 64127, since the program was launched in March 2023.



Keeping 'Em Together: Kiwi and Pipa



When Cammie needed somewhere for Kiwi and Pipa to stay while she focused on her housing situation, she reached out to KC Pet Project for help. Kiwi and Pipa are a bonded pair of Yorkies that have been with their owner for 2 years. These two little pups did everything together, so it was very important to Cammie that they stayed together. “The girls are more than just pets, they’re the best friends a person could ask for” Cammie told us. She knew it would be hard to be away from them for any bit of time but was willing to trust our Home Away from Home fosters with her babies.

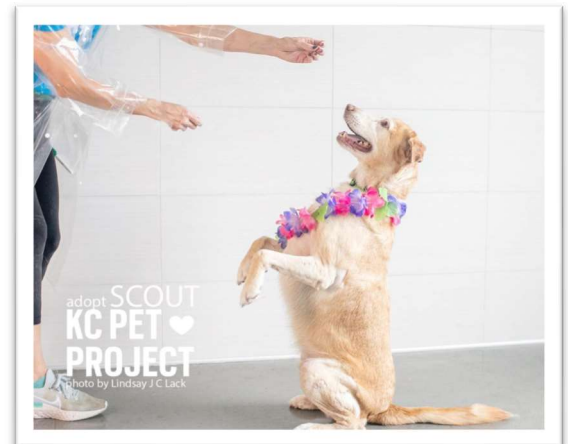
Like so many of the animals that come through our doors, Kiwi and Pipa were confused and nervous when Cammie left them at our shelter. During their 60 days in temporary care, Kiwi and Pipa got to enjoy several visits with their owner at the shelter and soon going to shelter was no longer scary. Kiwi and Pipa were so excited to see Cammie when it was time to go home. They gave Cammie kisses as soon as she picked them up. It was so easy to see and feel the bond this family had and we’re so glad we could keep this family together.

Canine Behavior & Enrichment Department

- ❖ Dogs assigned to Behavior Team for assessment: 53
- ❖ Pre-adoption behavior consultations conducted: 100
- ❖ Number of dogs introduced to adopters by Behavior Team: 4

An average of 153 shelter dogs participated daily in canine playgroups in August.

- ❖ 100 post-adoption support follow up emails were sent to adopters
- ❖ 15 behavior support phone consultations performed
- ❖ 41 behavior support emails/correspondence sent
- ❖ Assisted 4 people with behavior help for their foster dogs



In the month of August, KC Pet Project renewed a partnership with **Warriors' Best Friend**. Warriors' Best Friend is a training facility that provides support and companionship through the placement of trained facility dogs. Our Behavior team meets with a trainer from Warriors' Best Friend to find potential matches for their program. The dogs then go on to spend about three weeks in their care through our foster program where they begin the early stages of assessment to become a Facility Dog. If the dog passes the three-week assessment, KC Pet Project transfers the dog to their facility.

The dog will begin the training process of becoming a Facility Dog where they will spend their time in schools across the Kansas City Metro area. If the dog does not pass their assessment, they come back to our care with information on how they have interacted with children, other dogs, and introductions to strangers in real life settings.

In the month of August, Warriors' Best Friend took **4** dogs from us. One has been transferred to their program, one was returned but is already in a foster home (thanks to information learned in their care), and two have just begun their three-week assessment period.

Canine Operations & Adoptions

Our Canine Care team cared for an average of **248** dogs every day at the KC Campus for Animal Care in August.

Dog adoptions have increased 27% from this time in 2022. We welcomed a new Supervisor of Canine Adoptions, Ronni Weber, to our team. *Fee Waived Wednesdays* have been successful at finding homes for more dogs, as well as our Bark to School Adoption Special. Canine Specialist **Nathaniel Remines** (right) was featured in a national press release from Petco Love in honor of National Matchmaker's Day.



KCCAC Adoptions Customer Service Survey rating: **4.84/5.0** stars (30 surveys submitted in August, 272 responses to date)

"We adopted Jockey a little over a week ago and he's doing great. Our other dog and he are getting acquainted slowly but it's going really well. Thank you for all you do for the animals in need." "Thankful for the opportunity to adopt our dog and we really appreciate the staff at KC Pet Project! Especially Bri!"

"I love KCPP and have for years." "Special thanks to staff (Amy, Sheryl, & others) for making this process easy, quick, informative, & successful."

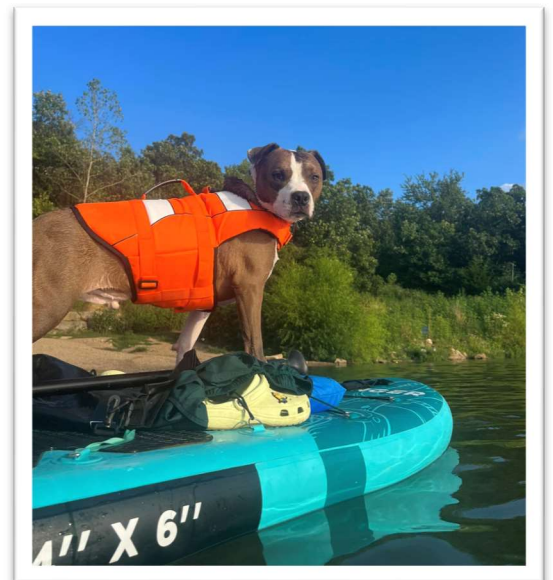
"Great experience finding a good match for our family" "Everything was perfect" "The staff could not have been more caring about the pets. Special people."

Canine Foster Care Program

Tabitha Urban, Director of Canine Operations, reported 143 dogs (31% of the dogs in our care) were in foster homes at the end of August (including **Alfred** (right) who learned to paddle board with his foster family!)

- ✓ During the month, **312** dogs/puppies were sent to foster homes.
- ✓ Volunteers (including the Mayor of Kansas City!) took **164** dogs on a Dog's Day Out last month.
- ✓ We welcomed 36 new dog foster families in August.
- ✓ We had 50 dogs/puppies adopted directly from foster homes.

We held a public **Be a Foster, Save a Life Event** August 25th – 27th. We offered walk-in group onboarding sessions for new fosters and gained 36 new foster families during the month. During that weekend, twenty-two (22) dogs went into foster homes! Although we fell short of our initial goal of 50 dogs, we were able to find placement for many dogs and gained many new foster families.



Sadie Ford was promoted to the role of our new Canine Foster Coordinator. Sadie has been with KCPP since November 2021 where they started as a Canine Specialist, then moved to Canine Care Supervisor. Sadie is passionate about animal welfare and bully breed advocacy, and they can't wait to use their skills to help us grow the foster program.

Canine Transfer & Placement | Transport | Small Animals & Farm Animals

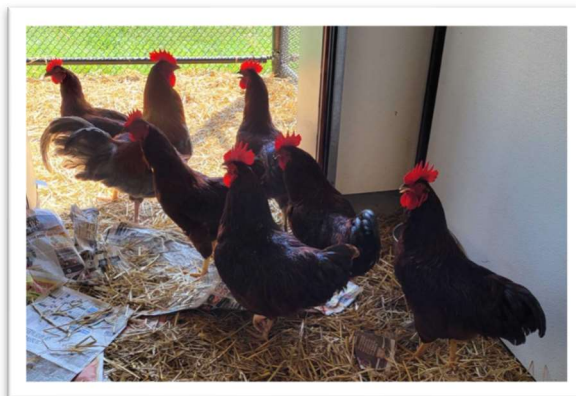
Chelsae Rohrback, Rescue and Transport Coordinator reported 41 dogs and 1 turtle were transferred to other rescue organizations in August.

Organizations we transferred animals to: Chain of Hope, Columbia Second Chance, Lakeside Nature Center, Mac's Mission, Maple Woods Community College Vet Tech Program, Missouri Pit Bull Rescue, Pawsitive Tails, Paws-N-Claws Iowa, Shiba Inu Rescue Association, Unleashed Pet Rescue, Warriors' Best Friend Foundation, and Whispering Willows Senior Dog Sanctuary.

Small Animals & Transportation Program:

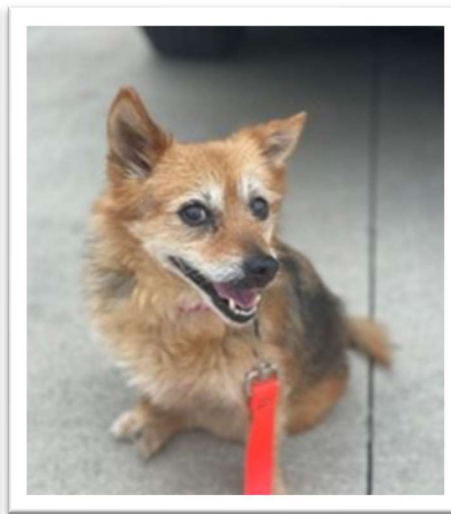
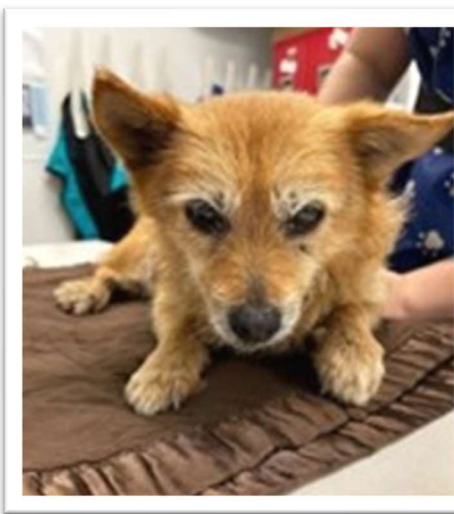
Sixty-seven (67) puppies/small dogs and seventy-three (73) large dogs were moved to our Zona Rosa Adoption Center or Petco Adoption Center in August.

We processed **20** small animal adoptions – 2 chickens, 8 guinea pigs, 1 lizard, 3 rabbits, and 6 roosters. We sent 6 small animals to foster homes in August for medical and/or special needs.



Peach Cobbler (right) arrived at our shelter in mid-July as a stray who appeared to have been hit by a vehicle. She had an open leg fracture that required an emergency amputation the following morning. The amputation of her rear leg went well, but she was struggling to walk and put weight on her other weight bearing rear leg. By August, we knew Peach Cobbler would greatly benefit from going into a foster-based rescue where she could recuperate further and Mac's Mission in Jackson, MO answered the call. Our Transport Coordinator drove Peach Cobbler to St.

Louis where volunteers with Mac's Mission took Peach Cobbler into their care. We're happy to report that Peach Cobbler is on her way to making a full recovery -- just look at that smile!



Feline Foster Care Program

Feline Foster Program Coordinator, Leslie Bauer, reported sending out 284 kittens and 18 adult cats to foster homes last month. At the end of the month, **328** cats/kittens (64% of the cats at KCPP) were in foster homes.

We had a higher-than-average number of mother cats with kittens arriving in August. We sent **16** families of moms with underage kittens to foster homes. Keeping kittens with their mom is always preferable, as the mother cats do a great job keeping kittens healthy and helping them develop social skills. **Kittens arriving under 4 weeks of age with their mom have a 20% - 25% lower mortality rate compared to kittens without moms.**



Forty-seven (47) kitties were adopted directly from foster homes – accounting for 10% of the cat adoptions last month!

Petco Cat Habitats | Whiskers Cat Café | Feline Lifesaving Transfer Program

Gage Mofield, our Petco Program Coordinator, oversaw the transfer of 46 cats/kittens from Joplin Humane Society in August. Our ability to transfer in cats from other shelters has been impacted by increases in stray cats coming into our shelter, and challenges with staffing leading to reduced hours in several Petco stores across the metro.

- ✓ In August, we processed 181 adoptions through Petco Cat Habitats and 21 cat adoptions from Whiskers Cat Café. Our Olathe Petco store had the highest number of adoptions last month with 31 adoptions.
- ✓ Our average length of stay for cats in Petco Cat Habitats was just 3 days!

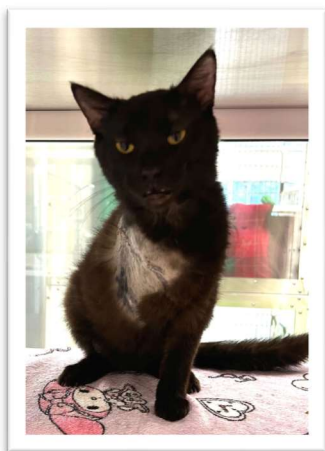
We want to shed light on a very special kitty that was at Whisker's Cat Cafe named **Jaspurr** (right). He came to us completely shut down, but with some patience, love, and attention, the team slowly witnessed a once-shy cat bloom into a confident, loving companion. His new family recognized how special he was and was prepared to offer a calm environment with lots of patience. We've received some wonderful updates about Jaspurr's progress since getting settled into his new home. Congratulations to Jaspurr and his wonderful new family.



Feline Operations

Jennifer Dreisewerd, Director of Feline Operations, reported we took in **655** cats/kittens in August, with a 26% increase in the number of stray cats/kittens being brought in by the public.

- ✓ We had **487** cats adopted this month, but the lower number of cats in our system and several Petco store cat habitat closures has resulted in lower numbers of cats being adopted (by 24%). We saw a 71% decrease in the number of cats/kittens we were able to transfer in from other shelters/rescues in August due to capacity limitations.
- ✓ Our Feline Specialists provided care for an average of 105 cats per day at our Campus location.

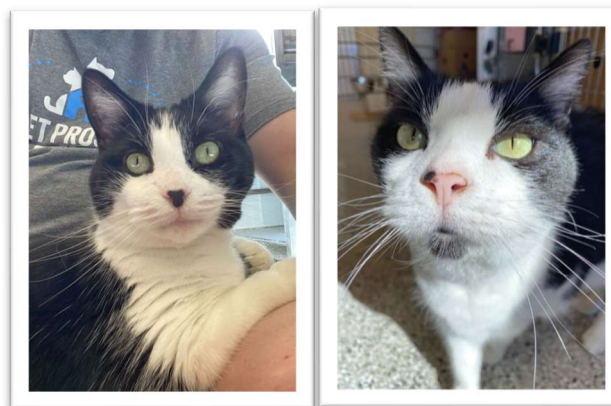


Jellybean (right), our oldest cat, was adopted in August. He was lucky enough to find a new owner just 2 weeks after arriving. Seven cats over 10 years of age found homes last month!

Drew Thomas (left) arrived on June 26th with an injury to his leg. In July, our veterinarians performed an amputation of his front leg. Drew Thomas is just one of the **15 FeLV+ cats** we found homes for in August.

Autumn and Angel (right) got adopted for the 4th time from KC Pet Project! This bonded pair has been through a lot of transitions, but they always have each other! These sweet cats just seem to roll with life

and have lots of love to give to all those they meet. We hope this new home will be their forever home.



Submitted by,

TJohnson

Teresa Johnson, President/CEO & Chief Lifesaving Officer, KC Pet Project